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(71) Applicants

Albert Czeszniewski
26 Cuthbert Road, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent, CT8 8NR,
United Kingdom

Robert Chesney
19 Sheraton Court, Walderslade Woods, Walderslade,
Kent, ME5 9EG, United Kingdom

(72) Inventors

Albert Czeszniewski
Robert Chesney

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service

Albert Czeszniewski
26 Cuthbert Road, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent, CT8 8NR,
United Kingdom

(51) INT CL⁶
A01G 9/12

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(56) Documents cited
GB 0453493 A EP 0089291 A

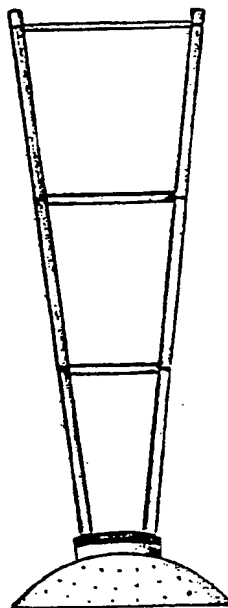
(58) Field of search
UK CL (Edition K) A1E
INT CL⁶ A01G

(54) Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support

(57) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support comprises a hollow domed, ventilated base, and screw-in support stakes allowing for extension in height with growth of plant.

It allows for easy transfer of plant to another pot without disturbing its roots, and never creating the necessity to break the original pot. Its dome shaped base unit allows air to pass through and water drainage because of its ventilation holes, thus helping to keep the roots healthy. It can be assembled in a straight pole like form to assist tall straight growing plants or assembled in a 'V' shaped frame to assist wide spreading plants.

FIG 8



GB 2 253 126 A

1/2

FIG 1

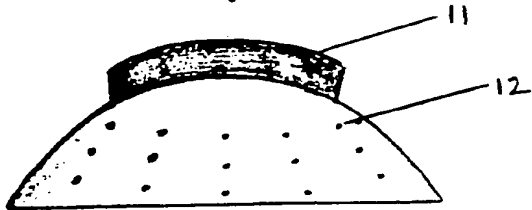


FIG 2

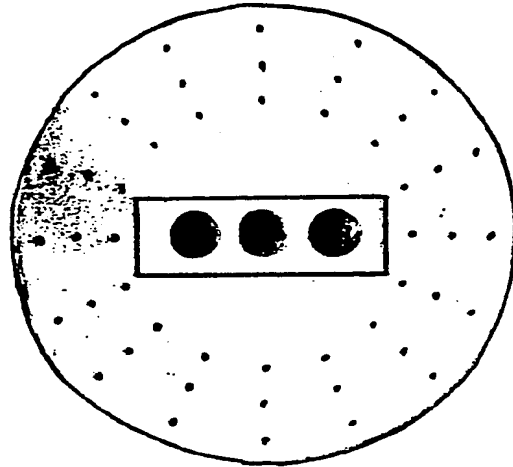


FIG 3

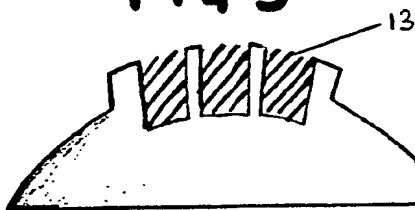


FIG 5



FIG 6

FIG 4

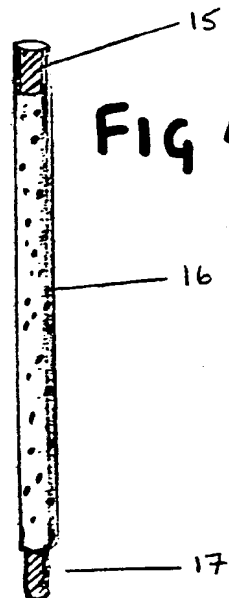


FIG 7

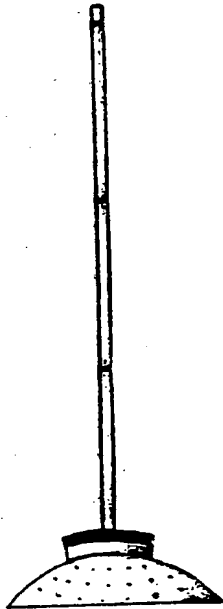


FIG 8

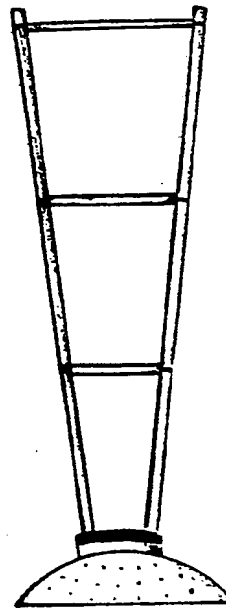
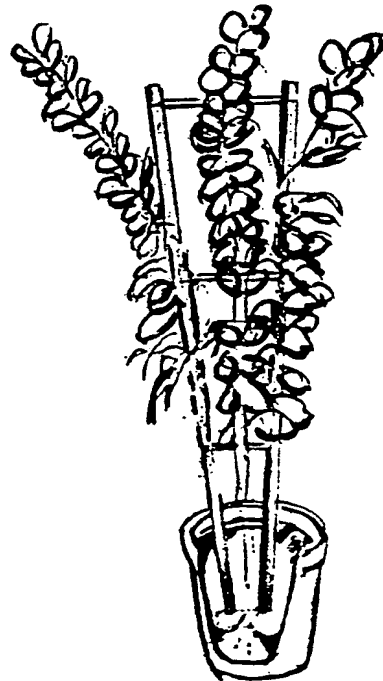


FIG 9



FIG 10



(1)

MULTI-PURPOSE ADJUSTABLE POT-PLANT SUPPORT
(incorporating: root preserver & easy pot transfer)

This invention relates to a Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support. In general, the failure of pot-plants to grow straight, controlled and remain the same, is in direct result of failure of support. Most often used is the 'bamboo' pole or other such 'sticks', where a plant is tied to this object. The stick or pole has freedom of movement itself and relies on the solidity of the soil at all times, to keep it in place.

In almost all cases this proves to be unsuccessful, because the plant is watered and makes the soil soft, and of course as the plant grows it pulls and twists and often takes the stick with it. Other major problems with pot plants are drainage and transferring to larger pots. Roots that are not allowed to breath and become damp or waterlogged often become diseased and rot, so the plant dies. Transferring from one pot to another is often difficult because you are unable to remove the plant without breaking the original pot.

The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support provides a stable support, for either tall, straight growing or wide spreading plants, using the weight of soil to hold it in place, watering only adds extra weight so has no bad effect on the support. The upright support arms have male and female threads so allow additional sections to be added by screwing two or more together, as the plant grows. Due to its hollow domed base, with breather holes, it allows air to circulate and at the same time allows excess water from the soil to drain through. By leaving the first support arm(s) screwed into the base unit, you can lift the complete plant with its roots intact clean away from its pot. It will be available in green or brown so to blend in with the growing plant, and is simply made in toughened moulded plastics, and it can be packaged in a flat pack for convenience.

The multi-purpose adjustable pot plant support has the option of being put together to support a tall straight growing plant by assembling the support arms from the single centre female thread on the domed base, or by inserting two support arms into the two outside female threads on the base and building an angled support, help stable by the stabilising links, so it will control a wide spreading plant

(2)

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:-

- FIGURE 1 Shows the domed base unit from the side.
- FIGURE 1/11 Shows the raised rectangular unit housing the three female screw threads - (entry points for the support arms.)
- FIGURE 1/12 Shows a ventilation hole.
- FIGURE 2 Shows the domed base viewed from above.
- FIGURE 3 Shows a cut through internal view of the base.
- FIGURE 3/13 Shows the internal female thread location.
- FIGURE 4 Shows one support arm.
- FIGURE 4/15 Shows the female internal screw thread position.
- FIGURE 4/16 Shows the barking effect on the support arm.
- FIGURE 4/17 Shows the male external screw thread position.
- FIGURE 5 Shows one stabilising link.
- FIGURE 5/14 Shows moulded loop - which slides over male screw thread of support arm.
- FIGURE 6 Shows screw in finishing cap.
- FIGURE 7 Shows Multi-Purpose Adjustable Pot Plant Support assembled for tall growing plants.
- FIGURE 8 Shows Multi-Purpose Adjustable Pot Plant Support assembled for wide spreading plants.
- FIGURE 9 Shows the Multi-Purpose Adjustable Pot Plant Support complete with tall growing plant - placed in flower pot (cut away to show dome base at bottom of pot).
- FIGURE 10 Shows the Multi-Purpose Adjustable Pot Plant Support complete with wide spreading plant - placed in flower pot (cut away to show domed base at bottom of pot).

CLAIMS

- 1) The Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support has a circular, hollow, domed base that can sit at the bottom of all conventional plant pots. It is made of moulded plastic. The base has ventilation holes that allow both air and water to pass through. On top of the base is a small rectangular unit housing three female screw threads to take the support arms.

The support arms are made of solid plastic, and are all of the same length. At one end of the support arm is a female screw thread, and at the other end a male screw thread. The support arms have a barking effect in the moulded plastic, and come in green or brown to blend in with the plant.

For a tall, straight growing plant, the support is assembled from the single centre female screw thread in the domed base, for a wide spreading plant, the support arms are placed in the two outside female screw threads and form an angled support, strengthened by the stabilising links.

If using the Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support for wide spreading plants, then the stabilising links can be held in place between the male and female screw threads. The stabilising links are also made of moulded plastic, and are manufactured in three specific lengths, so as to allow correct spreading of the support arms, at a fixed angle.

On top of the final support arms is a simple screw in finishing cap, which is made again of moulded plastic, and is there purely for a decorative purpose for the single support structure, or for holding the final stabilising link with the wide spreading support.

- 2) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support by being of a self assembly nature, allows support arms to be added as the plant grows.
- 3) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant can be put together in either of two ways. Firstly as an upright support for tall straight growing plants or secondly as a spreading support for tall, wide spreading plants.
- 4) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support by its design of the hollow ventilated domed base unit, allows water and air to pass through, so keeps the roots of the plant healthy.
- 5) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support makes for easy removal/transferring from one plantpot to another by simply leaving the first support arm(s) attached to the base and pulling upwards and out.
- 6) The Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support can be manufactured in moulded toughened plastic, and no other materials are required.

(4)

- 7) The Multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support can be manufactured in any size required.
- 8) The multi-purpose adjustable pot-plant support because of its self-assembly nature, can be distributed in flat pack form.

Patents Act 1977

Examiner's report to the Comptroller under
Section 17 (The Search Report) - 5 -

Application number 9113373.6

Relevant Technical fields

(i) UK CI (Edition K) A1E

(ii) Int CI (Edition 5) A01G

Search Examiner

K J KENNETT

Databases (see over)

(i) UK Patent Office

(ii)

Date of Search

17.09.91

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of claims

1 TO 8

Category (see over)	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
X	GB 453493 (FEARNLEY) - whole documents	1-8
X	EP 0089291 (ALMERAS) - figures 2 to 6	1-8

SF2(p)

1MSAAY

Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)

Categories of documents

X: Document indicating lack of novelty or of inventive step.

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